In The Claims

Please cancel claims 44 to 64 and 66 to 68 and add new claims 69 to 94 without prejudice or disclaimer. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of claims

1-68. Cancelled

69. (New) A screening method comprising screening at least a compound which is potentially active in the field of lipolysis comprising a test of the capacity of the screened compound to inhibit the lipoprotein lipase (LPL) activity to identify at least a compound having a slimming activity.

70. (New) The method according to claim 69, wherein said method comprising the steps of:

a) preparing a substrate, wherein the substrate comprises at least one triacylglycerol;

b) placing the substrate in contact with at least

i.) the compound which potentially inhibits lipoprotein lipase activity (potentially active substance),

ii.) a lipoprotein lipase,

iii.) a cofactor of lipoprotein lipase,

iv.) a fatty acid-acceptor substance or a fatty acid-sequestering substance which prevents the blockage of the enzymatic activity of the lipoprotein lipase

for a period of time sufficient for releasing, at least in part, fatty acid from the triacylglycerol; and

c) upon completion of step b), determining the capacity of inhibition of the release of the fatty acid resulting from the activity of the lipoprotein lipase, under the action of the potentially active substance.

71. (New) The method according to claim 70, wherein step c) comprises the monitoring of the release of the fatty acid using an enzymatic technique on the reaction medium.

72. (New) The method according to claim 70, which comprises a further step of :

d) comparing said determined capacity of inhibition to a control, wherein the control is the capacity of inhibition of LPL activity obtained in the absence of the potentially active substance tested.

73. (New) The method according to claim 70, which comprises a further step of :

d) comparing said determined capacity of inhibition to a control, wherein the control is the capacity of inhibition of LPL activity obtained by a method comprising the steps:

a) preparing a substrate, wherein the substrate comprises at least one triacylglycerol;

b) placing the substrate in contact with at least

i.) an inhibitor known to be active in the field of lipolysis,

ii.) a lipoprotein lipase,

iii.) a cofactor of lipoprotein lipase,

iv.) a fatty acid-acceptor substance or a fatty acid-sequestering substance which prevents the blockage of the enzymatic activity of the lipoprotein lipase

for a period of time sufficient for releasing, at least in part, fatty acid from the triacylglycerol; and

c) upon completion of step b), determining the capacity of inhibition of the release of the fatty acid resulting from the activity of the lipoprotein lipase, under the action of the inhibitor known to be active in the field of lipolysis.

74. (New) The method according to claim 73, wherein the known inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of protamine sulfate, protamine, and sodium pyrophosphate.

75. (New)The method according to claim 74, wherein the cofactor of lipoprotein lipase is of human origin.

76. (New)The method according to claim 70, wherein the fatty acid-acceptor substance or fatty acid-sequestering substance comprises bovine or human albumin.

77. (New) The method according to claim 70, wherein the lipoprotein lipase is obtained from bovine milk or bacteria.

78. (New) The method according to claim 70, wherein the triacylglycerol comprises an acyl part which is obtained from a long chain fatty acid.

79. (New) The method according to claim 70, wherein the triacylglycerol comprises an acyl part comprising 12 to 30 carbon atoms.

80. (New) The method according to claim 79, wherein the acyl part is a straight or branched saturated C_{12} - C_{30} chain.

81. (New) The method according to claim 79, wherein the acyl part is a straight or branched unsaturated C_{12} - C_{30} chain.

82. (New) The method according to claim 70, wherein the triacylglycerol comprises triolein.

83. (New) The method according to claim 70, wherein said step b) of placing the substrate in contact comprises:

a) incubating the lipoprotein lipase for a determined period of time in the presence of the substance which is potentially active in the field of lipolysis;

b) incubating the substrate in the presence of the lipoprotein lipase cofactor; and

c) incubating the mixture of the substrate/lipoprotein lipase cofactor in the presence of the lipoprotein lipase and the substance which is potentially active in the field of lipolysis.

84. (New) The method of claim 70, wherein the lipoprotein lipase cofactor comprises apolipoprotein C-II.

85 (New) The method of claim 71, wherein the enzymatic technique is observed by colorimetry for obtaining an optical density value at a wavelength determined by the particular enzymatic technique utilized, and wherein comparing said determined capacity of inhibition to a control comprises comparing the optical density value obtained at the wavelength.

86. (New) The method of claim 70, wherein the enzymatic technique is observed by colorimetry for obtaining an optical density value at 550nm and inhibition is determined by the optical density value at 550nm which expresses a decrease in the fatty acid synthesized in the reaction medium, which is compared with the optical density value at 550nm with the control, and the activity of said substance tested is determined by the observation of the inhibition effected by said substance tested with respect to the control.

87. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the potentially active substance is selected from the group consisting of an extract of fucus, an extract of dulse palmaria palmata, an extract of wheat protein, an extract of spiruline, an extract of honeysuckle, an extract of St. John's wort, an extract of rice protein, an extract of liana, an extract of potato, an extract of shiitake, an extract of fresh salmon, an extract of pumpkin, and an extract of lemon.

88. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein said extract is selected from the group consisting of an aqueous or water extract, a hydro alcoholic extract, a hydro glycolic extract, a hydro ethanolic extract, a hydro propylene glycol extract, a hydro butylene glycol extract, and mixtures thereof.

89. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the potentially active substance is an extract of liana.

90. (New) The method of claim 89, wherein the liana is liana Uncaria tomentosa.

91. (New) The method of claim 70, wherein the potentially active substance is an extract of St. John's wort.

92. (New) A screening method comprising screening at least a compound which potentially active in the field of lipolysis comprising a test of the capacity of the screened compound to inhibit the LPL activity to identify at least a compound for diminishing or slowing down the fatty deposits.

93. (New) A screening method comprising screening at least a compound which potentially active in the field of lipolysis comprising a test of the capacity of the screened compound to inhibit the LPL activity to identify at least a compound for increasing blood microcirculation.

94. (New) A screening method comprising screening at least a compound which potentially active in the field of lipolysis comprising a test of the capacity of the screened compound to inhibit the LPL activity to identify at least a compound for improving the appearance of the skin or for diminishing the ugly "orange peel" appearance.